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## INFORMATIONAL NOTICE

**DATE:** September 27, 2006**TO:** Enrolled Medical Providers**RE:** Outreach for Persons with Developmental Disabilities

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The Department of Human Services, through the Division of Developmental Disabilities, is required to collect and maintain information on the need for services by Illinois citizens with developmental disabilities. This information is gathered through the Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services (PUNS) form. Children and adults with developmental disabilities who seek new, additional or different services available through the state system for persons with developmental disabilities (DD), and who have a caregiver age 60 or older, or project a need for services within the next five years are strongly encouraged to complete a PUNS form through any of the 18 Local Coordination Agencies across the state. The availability of this information enhances the State's capabilities to seek new or expanded DD services and to authorize services to individuals when new or additional funding becomes available.

In the course of your work and other associations, you and your staff, as health care professionals often come into contact with children and adults with developmental disabilities and their families. When you do, you may be able to direct the individual and their caregivers to useful information on available services and supports by:

- 1) Referring them to the State developmental disability Web site at: <[www.dd.illinois.gov](http://www.dd.illinois.gov)> The Web site provides one-stop shopping for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families to get the information and support they need. There are also direct links to the 18 Local Coordination Agencies that serve as the doorways to the State developmental disabilities system, or
- 2) Referring them to a toll-free hotline: **1-888-DDPLANS (1-888-337-5267) or 1-866-376-8446 (TTY)**. Here callers can get questions about DD services answered and get connected to the Local Coordination Agency that serves their area of the state.
- 3) Giving them a brochure that tells them about the DD services available in Illinois or a flyer on how to connect to their Local Coordination Agency.

These materials are available at: <[www.dd.illinois.gov](http://www.dd.illinois.gov)> or you may request materials by contacting:

Illinois Department of Human Services  
Division of Developmental Disabilities  
319 East Madison, Suite 4J  
Springfield, Illinois 62701  
217-782-9438  
217-782-2304 (TTY)

Your support of this outreach effort can influence dramatically the quality of life of children and adults with developmental disabilities and their families. The Departments of Human Services and Healthcare and Family Services appreciate your help in this effort.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Anne Marie Murphy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Anne Marie Murphy, Ph.D.  
Administrator  
Division of Medical Programs